

Summary of DAT Conference Call 11/20/2007

Participants: EChappell(DWR), JSpeegle(FWS),
RGartz(DFG), BPoytress(FWS), JWhite(DFG),
AChu(DWR), JSnow(WWD), LShih(CCWD),
EGleason(DFG), KTotzke(KCWA), JAdib-Samii(DFG),
ADVorak(SWC), GCastillo(FWS)

Conclusions and Recommendation

The passage of juvenile winter-run Chinook continues to decrease at RBDD. Spring yearlings were caught in the Mill Creek screw trap but no older juvenile Chinook were caught in the Delta.

DFG completed the November FMWT survey. Four delta smelt were caught in the lower Sacramento River. The index will be available next week.

Final copies of the DAT notes are now available on the CALFED Operations website at
<http://wwwoco.water.ca.gov/calfedops/datsummaries.html>.

No operational changes were recommended at this time.

Next DAT Conference Call Tuesday, 11/27/2007, 9:00 am - 11:00 am. 916/657-4111.

Chinook Monitoring

Upper Sacramento River

Red Bluff Diversion Dam – For the last week winter-run passage decreased averaging 1,700 per day. So far passage this season is 1.36 million.

Late fall Chinook passage averaged 108 per day. Spring Chinook passage increased slightly averaging 377 per day and steelhead passage decreased averaging 19 per day. Flows at Bend Bridge are stable around 6,700cfs.

FWS posts biweekly reports on the Bay-Delta and Tributaries Project website, at
http://baydelta.ca.gov/Php/Special_Reports/red_bluff.php.

Mill Creek – Last week the catch decreased to 17 yearling

spring-run and no steelhead. Flows are low and stable.

Deer Creek – DFG will install the rotary screw trap once the flows increase.

Butte Creek – DFG will install the rotary screw trap once the flows increase. They will start in the in-river tagging program on January 1st.

GCID – The catch of older juvenile Chinook decreased ranging from about 0 to 6 per day.

Knights Landing – DFG has not caught any Chinook or steelhead in the last month.

Delta Monitoring

In the last week, FWS caught one older juvenile Chinook in the Chipps Island trawl. No delta smelt, steelhead, or splittail were caught.

Sacramento Kodiak Trawl - 3 sample days, 30 samples. No species of interest.

Lower Sacramento River seine – 1 sample day, 2 samples. No species of interest.

Sacramento Area seine – 3 sample days, 21 samples. No species of interest.

North Delta seine - 1 sample day, 6 samples. No species of interest.

Central Delta seine - 1 sample day, 8 samples. No species of interest.

South Delta seine - 1 sample day, 5 samples. No species of interest.

Mossdale Kodiak Trawl - 3 sample days, 30 samples. No species of interest.

San Joaquin River seine - 1 sample day, 1 samples. No species of interest.

Chipps Island Midwater Trawl - 3 sample days, 39 samples. FWS caught one older juvenile Chinook but

no other species of interest.

Bay seine - 1 sample day, 1 sample. No species of interest.

Delta Action 8 – This year the Delta Action 8 experiment will have two release groups. The first release will be in early December with the DCC open, if possible.

Spring Surrogate Releases – The November and December release groups of Coleman Hatchery late-fall Chinook will be combined again this year. FWS plans to release the Chinook on November 26th.

Delta Smelt Monitoring

FMWT – DFG completed the November survey. They caught a total of 4 delta smelt. DFG caught three smelt near Decker Island and one smelt near Sherman Lake. The November delta smelt index will be available next week.

DSWG – No update.

Adult Migration and Spawning Workshop – Gonzalo Castillo (FWS) gave a brief summary of the workshop that was held November 15th. After the five presentations in the morning the panel addressed five questions related to delta smelt and longfin smelt migration and spawning focusing on new approaches that could be used to assist with water management:

- The first question focused on approaches to better understand the physical and chemical cues that delta/longfin smelt may use. Panel members suggested the use of remote-sensing for monitoring turbidity, mapping sediments and ideas for evaluating hierarchical selection processes leading to spawning microhabitats, and including studies to look at water quality variables (pesticides and urban run-off).
- The second question addressed migration and staging. Other osmerids typically have one spawning wave where the males move to the spawning grounds first. Both smelts likely stage and make rapid nighttime forays into the actual spawning sites. It was suggested that the biologists look at spawning

patterns under various hydrological and environmental conditions.

- Question 3 focused on what insights could be gained from existing data (primarily the Kodiak trawl). Panel members suggested trying to relate maturity/stage to environmental conditions, identify geographic patterns, and map potential discharge points.
- The fourth question addressed new approaches to learning about migration. Panel member discussed using the larval data with PTM and working backwards to determine where the spawning grounds may have been.
- Question 5 focused on data needs for modeling. The panel identified the need for a better mechanistic understanding, including the events taking place at the reach scale to assist individual based and PT models. Turbidity was suggested as an important variable to model spawning migration.

Gonzalo and Matt Nobriga (CBDA) are currently preparing a summary of the workshop. The summary will be posted on the CBDA Science Program website by mid-December.

Salvage Facilities –

Chinook – None.

Steelhead – None.

Delta smelt – None.

Splittail – None.

Longfin smelt - None.

Sturgeon – None.

The DFG Salvage Database is available on the DFG ftp site (<ftp://ftp.delta.dfg.ca.gov/salvage/>).

Head of Old River and Agricultural Barriers

HORB - DWR breached the barrier on November 9th and has removed most of the barrier. The work will be completed after the Thanksgiving holiday.

Ag. Barriers – DWR is still removing the boat ramps from both the Old River and Grantline barriers this week. The Middle River barrier is scheduled to be breached on November 27th. DWR expects all in water work to be completed by November 30th.

Operations

SWP -

CCFB – 4,500cfs.

Oroville - 2,150cfs.

X2 - > 81 km.

E/I - 3-day ~53%

San Luis - ~511taf. SWP share of San Luis capacity is 1,062 taf.

EWA - Based on preliminary data for October the debt for SWP will be between 30 and 40taf and between 10 and 20taf for CVP. DWR is still working on the final estimate.

CVP -

Tracy PP - 2,700cfs.

DCC - open.

Trinity - 300cfs.

Clear Creek - 200cfs.

Keswick – 5,600cfs.

Nimbus – 1,250cfs. The power bypass was implemented on Friday, November 9th to lower water temperatures on the American. The power bypass will continue at least through today, November 20th and may continue until next Monday, November 26th.

Goodwin – 280cfs.

San Luis - 426taf. CVP share of San Luis capacity is 966 taf.

Flows

Sacramento River at Freeport ~ 11,163cfs.

Fremont Weir ~ 0.

San Joaquin River at Vernalis ~ 1,480cfs.

Delta Outflow ~ 4,373cfs. The 7-day average is 5,573cfs. The monthly average is projected at 4,700cfs for November.

Rio Vista ~ 5,444cfs. The 7-day average is 5,400cfs.

The monthly average is projected at 4,666cfs for November.

Delta Water Quality

The Delta is in balanced conditions. Water quality is okay.

November Water Quality Standards –

Delta Outflow – monthly average $\geq 4,500$ cfs, 7-day average $\geq 3,500$ cfs.

Delta Cross Channel – The gates may be closed for up to 45 days for the protection of Chinook between November 1st and January 31st.

E/I Ratio – 65%

Rio Vista – monthly average $\geq 4,500$ cfs, 7-day average $\geq 3,500$ cfs.

Contra Costa Canal – CI ≤ 250 mg/L. In addition, CI ≤ 150 mg/L for 165 days per year. This portion of the standard has been met for the year.

South Delta – 30-day average EC ≤ 1.0 .

Suisun Marsh = Eastern EC ≤ 15.5 mS/cm; Western EC ≤ 16.5 mS/cm.

Erin Chappell

Environmental Scientist

DWR-DES

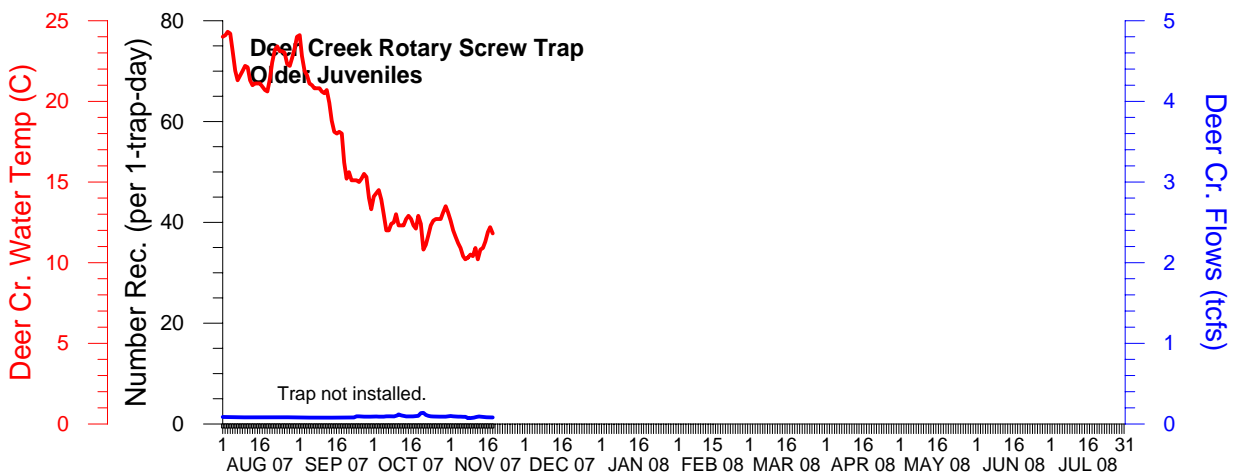
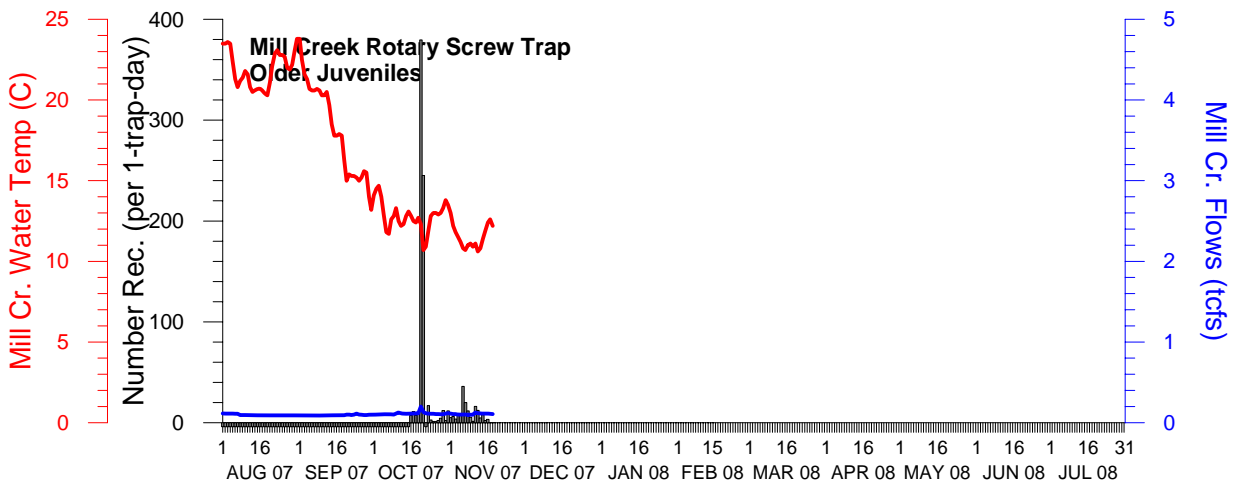
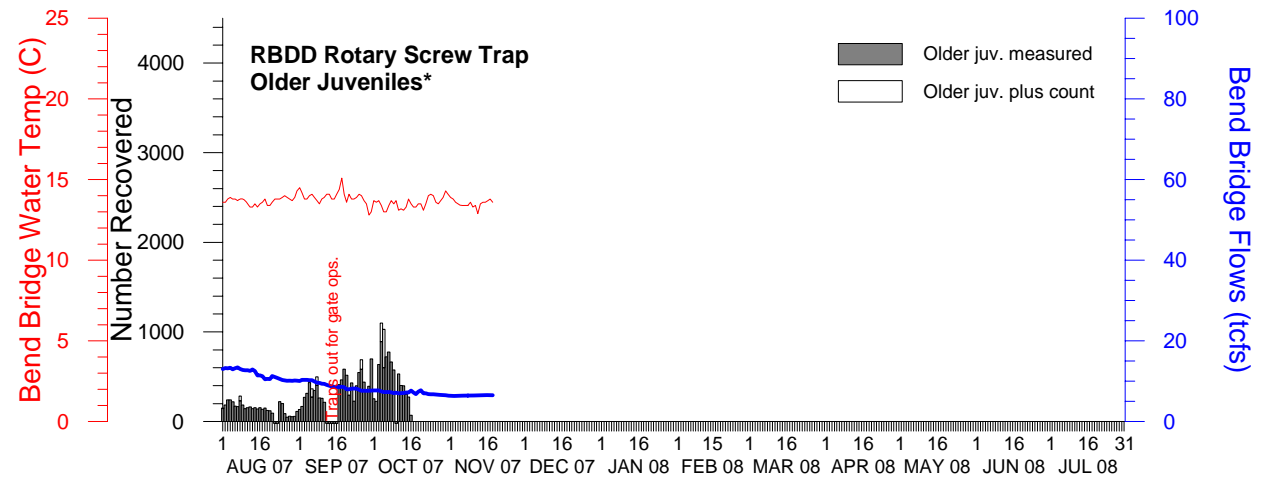
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NUMBER OF JUVENILE CHINOOK MEASURED IN THE UPPER SACRAMENTO RIVER & TRIBUTARIES

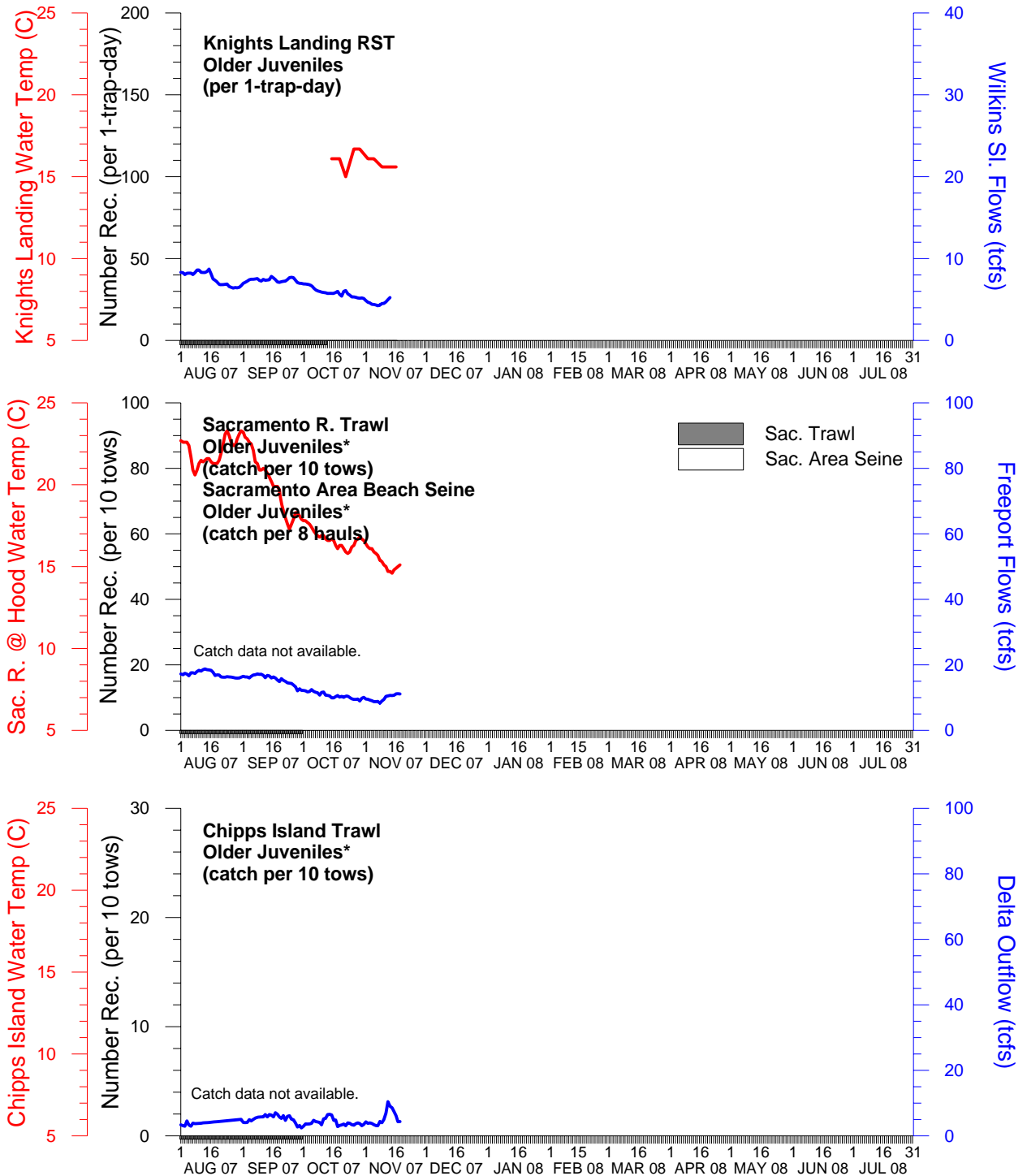


DWR-DES 19 NOV 2007

Preliminary, subject to revision

*Older juveniles defined as all Chinook above the minimum winter run length line (Frank Fisher model)

NUMBER OF JUVENILE CHINOOK MEASURED IN THE SACRAMENTO RIVER & DELTA



DWR-DES 19 NOV 2007
Preliminary, subject to revision
*Plus counts not included

Data Acquisition:

All the data is preliminary and subject to revision.

The catch data for RBDD, Sacramento River Trawl, Sacramento Area Beach Seine, and Chipps Island were obtained from the BDAT website: <http://baydelta.ca.gov> .

The catch data for Mill and Deer creeks were obtained directly from DFG, Red Bluff Juvenile Salmon Monitoring Project.

The catch data for Knights Landing were obtained directly from DFG, Native Anadromous Fish & Watershed Branch.

The hydrology data were obtained from either the CDEC or BDAT websites: <http://cdec.water.ca.gov> or <http://baydelta.ca.gov>.

Project Offices:

Mill Creek - DFG, Red Bluff Juvenile Salmon Monitoring Project

Deer Creek - DFG, Red Bluff Juvenile Salmon Monitoring Project

RBDD - USFWS, Red Bluff Fish & Wildlife Office

Knights Landing - DFG, Native Anadromous Fish & Watershed Branch

Sacramento Trawl - USFWS, Stockton Office Juvenile Salmon Monitoring

Sacramento Area Beach Seine - USFWS, Stockton Office Juvenile Salmon Monitoring Project

Chipps Island Trawl - USFWS, Stockton Office Juvenile Salmon Monitoring Project